

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2756
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2007
VIGILANCE COMMITTEES FOR MONITORING PDS
Bhargav Shri Girdhari Lal;Maheshwari Smt. Kiran

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Vigilance Committees are proposed to be constituted for better monitoring of Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (b) if so, the States where such vigilance committees are proposed to be constituted; and
- (c) the steps taken so far for ensuring setting up of such committees in States for proper monitoring of PDS?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a), (b) & (c): The Central Government has been requesting the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to activate Vigilance Committees and re-constitute them, if not done already, by associating members from amongst the card holders as well as people's representatives. In the Model Citizens' Charter, constitution of Vigilance Committees by State Governments at the level of Panchayat, Ward, Taluk, District and States/Union Territories have already been emphasized. In the guidelines issued in June, 1999 for the involvement of Panchayat Raj Institutions in the implementation of Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS), it has been suggested that the Gram Panchayats, Gram Sabhas should be encouraged to form Fair Price Shops (FPS) Committees. The main functions of Vigilance Committees are to ensure smooth functioning of Public Distribution System (PDS) and redressal of problems related with it. The Vigilance Committees are at present functioning at FPS level, Block/Mandal/Taluk level, District Level and State Level in most of the States/Union Territories. As per the information received from States/UTs, the status of constitution of Vigilance Committees in the States/Union Territories is Annexed.